

Hazard Management Specialists

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WASTE MANAGEMENT BRANCH

October 6, 1987

Marcia Bailey
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Marcia:

Enclosed are two copies of our progress report on the geotechnical investigation at the RBT landfill site in Ridgefield, Washington. I have also sent a copy of this letter and a report to Robert Farrell.

Site characterization completed to date indicated that a sand stratum at the landfill bottom provides a permeable medium that should be utilized in the monitoring system. This stratum lies between two impermeable formations and provides the only ground water access to the landfill bottom. Four monitoring weels capable of sampling were installed in this sand stratum during the August site work.

Monitoring of the sand stratum to determine the presence of ground water and to sample water quality will continue through the upcoming 1987-88 wet season. This work will answer the question of whether an "upper seasonal aquifer" exists.

Since the regional aquifer in the lower Troutdale Formation is remote from the site in terms of separation distance, limited water availability to transport contaminants, and stratification that will impede or stop vertical percolation, deep monitoring wells that tap the regional aquifer at this time have no apparent value.

Additionally, the highly permeable sand and the relatively steep slope or the impermeable Troutdale formation will allow any leachate to move horizontally away from the site. The monitoring wells are installed in the sand downgradient from the landfill site.



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The water samples collected during the upcoming wet season will be analyzed. The monitoring results, conclusions, and recommendations will be presented to the EPA within the next 10 months. This period is intended to include saturation and drainage periods for the postulated seasonal "upper aquifer condition".

Should you have any questions or comments, please call me at (503) 274-2217 or Dave Newton at (503) 228-7718.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bryan M. Johnson".

Bryan M. Johnson, P.E.
President

ET/bjg

Enclosures

cc: David J. Newton, Letter and Report
Robert Farrell, Letter and Report
Bryant Adams, Letter and Report